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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Michael L. Lamb et al.

Examiner: N/A

Serial No.: 09/972,386

Group Art Unit: N/A

Filed: October 5, 2001

For: **STORAGE AREA NETWORK METHODS
AND APPARATUS FOR STORAGE DEVICE
MASKING**

#4

Atty Docket: SJ09-2001-0037

Our Ref No: 0102396-0021

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

The undersigned certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Date: 1/4/02David J. Fowsner
Reg. No. 31,868Information Disclosure Statement

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 56 and 97 *et seq.*, the Applicants cite the information on the accompanying modified form PTO 1449. The Applicants also enclose copies of the cited publications.

This Disclosure Statement is being filed under Rule 97(b), that is, within three months of the filing date of a national application (or entry of the national phase in the case of an international application) or before the mailing date of a first Office Action, whichever event occurs last.

The filing of this Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been conducted, nor as an admission that the information cited herein is (or is considered to be) material to patentability, nor that the publication or information cited herein is prior art.

The Applicants understand no fees, apart from those referred to above, if any, are necessary in order to insure consideration of the information cited herein. If the Applicants understanding in this regard is incorrect, please charge any such fees to Deposit Order Account 141449. For this purpose, a duplicate of this document is enclosed.

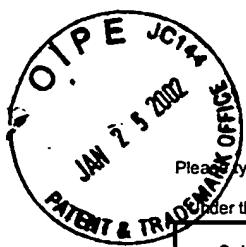
Respectfully Submitted,



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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete If Known	
				Application Number	09/972,386
				Filing Date	October 5, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Michael L. Lamb
				Group Art Unit	Not yet assigned
				Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	SJ09-2001-0037
(use as many sheets as necessary)					

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.